

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

USLO NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 475

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, UN, UR

SUBJECT: UN COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN COMMITTEE

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY:

THE FOLLOWING CABLE REPORTS RECENT DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO THE UN COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN (CTB) COMMITTEE INCLUDING: (A) A BELGIAN STATUS REPORT FOR JANUARY, (B) THE FEBRUARY 6 WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS (WEO) GROUP MEETING, (C) UK DISCUSSION OF CTB COMMITTEE WITH USYG BUFFUM.
END INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.

2. BELGIAN STATUS REPORT. BELGIAN STATUS REPORT FOR WEO ACTIVITIES DURING JANUARY DISTRIBUTED TO WEO GROUP
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(POUCHED TO BLACK ACDA/IR AND LONG IO/UNP) NOTED THAT AT

THE LAST MEETING OF THE REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMEN EE CHAIRMAN (UKRAIN) STATED THAT THE CTB IS ALREADY CONSTITUTED (BY RESOLUTION 3478). REPORT CONTINUES THAT USYG BUFFUM (US), PRESIDING, SAID IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO KNOW THE POSITION OF THE NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES (NWS) AND THEM DECIDE HOW TO INTERPRET THE RESOLUTION.

3. AT FEBRUARY WEO MEETING, MARSHALL (UK) SUPPORTED A BELGIAN STATEMENT IN THE STATUS REPORT ON THE REQUIREMENT IN THE RES THAT ALL NWS ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS IF THE CTB COMMITTEE IS TO MEET. FRG REP SAID THE COMMITTEE HAD NOT YET BEEN CREATED AND THERE IS NO WAY TO CALL IT SINCE THE PRE-CONDITIONS (PARTICIPATION BY ALL NWS) HAVE NOT BEEN MET. BENNETT (US) EXPRESSED DOUBT ABOUT REALISM OF THE EXERCISE IN LIGHT OF THE STATED VIEWS OF TWO NWS (CHINA AND FRANCE) NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. LONGERSTAEY (BELGIUM) SAID HE WAS CONVINCED THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD PRESS TO SET UP THE COMMITTEE AND EXPRESSED FEAR OF A CONFRONTATION. NETHERLANDS AND DANISH REPS ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH THIS VIEW AND ADDED THEIR RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE LEGAL PROPRIETY OF NOT REPEAT NOT CONSTITUTING THE CTB COMMITTEE. ITALIAN REP SAID ITALY WAS READY TO COOPERATE ON THE CTB COMMITTEE PROVIDED THAT AT LEAST "THE U.S. AND USSR PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMITTEE". RAE (CANADA REITERATED THE CANADIAN POSITION THAT CANADA WOULD ONLY PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMITTEE IF MORE THAN ONE NWS WERE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE. SINCE THESE CONDITIONS ARE NOT MET, HE SAID, CANADA DID NOT WANT TO BE LISTED IN ANY WAY AS A POSSIBLE CANDIDATE. WEO CHAIRMAN, RAE, (CANADA), SAID HE THOUGHT THE CTB COMMITTEE SHOULD BE APPROACHED FROM THE STANDPOINT OF ITS LACK OF REALISM RATHER THAN ON LEGAL GROUNDS. DE PINIES (SPAIN) SAID IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ESTABLISH THE COMMITTEE TO DEMONSTRATE ITS FUTILITY. GREEK REP SUPPORTED DE PINIES. RAE SAID HE WOULD REPORT THESE DISPARATE VIEWS TO UNDER-SECRETARY BUFFUM.

4. UK MEETING WITH BUFFUM. UK MISSION OFFICER LOGAN INFORMED US LATER ON FEBRUARY 6 OF HIS MEETING WITH BUFFUM. HE SAID THAT BUFFUM WOULD SUBMIT A REPORT OF THE VIEWS OF THE REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMEN AND THE NWS TO GA PRESIDENT THORN AND THAT THORN COULD THEN SIMPLY CIRCULATE HIS OWN REPORT ON THE CONFIDENTIAL

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CTB COMMITTEE AS THE "FINAL" STEP IN THE EXERCISE. LOGAN SAID HE WOULD RECOMMEND TO LONDON THAT A DEMARCHE BE MADE IN LUXEMBOURG TO ENSURE THAT THRON IS INFORMED OF WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHAT UK VIEWS ARE. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT USUN MIGHT MAKE A SIMILAR RECOMMENDATION TO WASHINGTON

5. COMMENT: USUN HAS COMMUNICATED OUR VIEWS ON THE CTB COMMITTEE TO OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES (AND TO BUFFUM). IT IS

DIFFICULT TO EVALUATE HOW HARD THE SOVIETS INTEND TO PUSH THE
CTB COMMITTEE.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO
PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS ON FURTHER U.S. REACTION TO THE CTB
COMMITTEE.
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